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LETTER DATED 6 JULY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to forward to you a fax-transmitted copy of the statement issued by the President of the Presidium of the Parliament of Nagorny-Karabagh regarding recent developments in the region.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement by the President of the Presidium of Parliament of the Republic of Nagorny-Karabagh on 4 July 1993

Mass media sources of Azerbaijan have been releasing reports according to which Agdam has been occupied.

I am in a position to declare with the full responsibility of my office that the self-defence Army of the Republic of Nagorny-Karabagh has not entered Agdam and has no intention to do so.

The uproar in Azerbaijan is aimed at achieving propaganda purposes. The leadership of that Republic is, one more time, attempting to overcome a domestic political crisis by intensifying operations on the Karabagh front.

The following is what, in fact, has occurred. On the morning of 4 July, units of the Azerbaijani army, supported by military aircraft and artillery, initiated a large-scale offensive along the full eastern front of the Republic of Nagorny-Karabagh. The city of Stepanakert itself was hit by five missiles. The self-defence Army of the Republic of Nagorny-Karabagh, exercising its right to self-defence, was able to stop the offensive and force the enemy to retreat.

We reconfirm our readiness to engage in direct negotiations with the leadership of Azerbaijan for the purpose of achieving a cease-fire.